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## Blunt approves grants for Missouri libraries

Secretary of State Matt Blunt has approved eight "Bring in an Expert" Grants and nine Public Library Automation Grants. The awards total \$26,386 for "expert" grants and \$219,345 for automation grants.

*Bring in an Expert Grants enable all types of libraries to undertake a variety of studies, surveys, and programs by using the services of individuals experienced in specific aspects of the library profession.*

**East Central College, Union** — \$1,000: This grant will provide cataloging training for members of the Archway Cluster of MO-BIUS, the statewide academic library consortium. This training will help the Archway libraries maintain high cataloging standards for inputting their bibliographic records to the online union catalog of Missouri's academic library holdings. East Central College will serve as the training site.

**Fontbonne College Library, St. Louis** — \$4,000: The college library will hire a consultant to assist in the redesign and upgrade of its K-12 Curriculum Library. This project will support the college's education department as it applies for accreditation by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education in 2003. As part of the project, the library will enhance the collection that supports the education department.

**Missouri City School Library** — \$4,800: This school library will bring in an expert to train its technical staff in the effective use of current equipment, including a videoconferencing studio, digital cameras, and new computers. The staff also will be trained in troubleshooting to avoid outsourcing computer repair and use problems. The

library wants to share its extensive multi-cultural collection and other special collections with other schools through its videoconferencing equipment and the World Wide Web.

**Missouri Southern State College, George A. Spiva Library** — \$1,470: The grant will pay for a consultant to help the library initiate a campus-wide colloquium to address service, budget, collection management (ownership vs. access), and in-house management issues. The consultant will meet one-on-one with key people on campus, work with the library staff, and mediate discussions within the larger campus community.

**Municipal Library Consortium of St. Louis County** — \$3,932: The consortium will investigate the possibility of creating a centralized cataloging department for its eight members. A consultant will conduct interviews with member libraries and research current literature to determine whether similar libraries or consortia have centralized cataloging routines or departments.

**Norwood R-1 School Library** — \$4,010: This school plans to implement flexible scheduling to encourage information literacy and to help students use the library media center in conjunction with the general education curriculum. A consultant will conduct a needs assessment of the school's information literacy program, develop a proposed program, meet with all staff to discuss program implementation, and help to implement the program.

**Paris High School Library** — \$2,935: An expert in problem-based learning will work with teachers at this school on how to incorporate Big6 into the curriculum. Big6 is a way of teaching information literacy and technology skills to high school students. Team leaders in the subjects of history, science, English, math, and the library media specialist will attend a one-day workshop on Big6 skills.

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## Missourian wins \$100,000 poetry prize



Carl Phillips, a professor of English and African and Afro-American Studies, won the 2002 Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award, given by Claremont Graduate University in California. The award carries a cash prize of \$100,000, the largest sum given for a book of poetry.

Phillips won the award for his 2001 collection, *The Tether* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux). The poems focus on questions of faith, race, and sexuality. He will receive the award on April 26 at a ceremony at Claremont McKenna College (CA).

Established in 1991 by Kate Tufts to honor her late husband, poet and writer Kingsley Tufts, the award is presented annually for a work by an emerging poet, one who is past the very beginning but has not yet reached the acknowledged pinnacle of his or her career. While some poetry prizes discover and honor new voices and others crown an indisputably major body of work, this award aims to sustain a poet who is laboring in the difficult middle between these extremes.

Phillips worked with the Missouri Center for the Book on a "launch" of Robert Pinsky's Favorite Poem Project in St. Louis. The launch was one of five held across the country featuring the former poet laureate.

## Blunt approves grants

(continued from page 1)

**William Pence Library, Waynesville R-IV School District** — \$4,239: The school will develop a Missouri Reading Initiative (MRI) plan with the assistance of professional MRI experts and trainers. MRI is a balanced literacy program that promotes successful student reading achievement. The plan will involve collection development, curriculum resources, professional development resources and techniques, teaching and program strategies.

*Public Library Automation Grants help libraries convert their records to machine-readable format, plan for retrospective conversion and automation projects, implement new systems, and upgrade current systems. In the 16th round of grants, nine libraries received grants totaling \$219,345. Recipients include:*

**Barton County Library** — \$35,081: system upgrade.

**Bethany Public Library** — \$26,964: retrospective conversion.

**Carrollton Public Library** — \$6,855: retrospective conversion.

**Dulany Library** — \$3,443: retrospective conversion.

**Gentry County Library** — \$17,196: retrospective conversion.

**Missouri River Regional Library** — \$113,561: system upgrade.

**Monroe City Public Library** — \$7,057: retrospective conversion.

**Seymour Community Library** — \$4,020: retrospective conversion.

**Sullivan County Public Library** — \$5,168: retrospective conversion.

All of the retrospective conversion proposals represent a milestone for the small rural libraries that have worked hard to begin the automation process. The cooperative discussion and pricing process they have carried out to get competitive bids and evaluate vendors is a model for other Missouri libraries.

The grant to Barton County Library allows migration from a DOS-based system to a Windows platform that conforms to state and national standards. Missouri River Regional Library's hardware request (\$34,715) will be shifted to the Library Services & Technology Act Basic Equipment Grant program.

NOTE: Springfield-Greene County Library received an LSTA grant for retrospective conversion and automation for the Wilson Creek National Battlefield Library. This project will serve as a pilot and provide direction and guidance for future specialty grants.

## Librarians learn media messaging

The State Library's "Media Relations for Librarians" workshops attracted 91 library employees who learned how to prepare for interactions with the media and community members. The regional workshops took place in January & February 2002 at Springfield-Greene County Library, University City Public Library, Little Dixie Regional Libraries, Sikeston Public Library, and Mid-Continent Public Library. The presenters were Mary Burke and Megan O'Brien of The Vandiver Group, a St. Louis marketing firm that is working with the State Library on its statewide library awareness campaign.

Knowing what to say to the media and when to say it is vital to a library's image and reputation. Workshop attendees learned to develop key message points for their institutions and to make sure those messages would be heard by the audience. Key messages convey the essence of who you are and what you do, Burke said. She recommended all libraries develop key messages that can be used as a template for news releases, spots, and interviews. These messages can be employed not only with the news media but also with community members to communicate change, relay information, or discuss a problem. All staff should know a library's key messages and be able to commu-

nicate those messages to the public.

The workshops covered different types of interviews and how to prepare for them. To illustrate good and bad interviews, Burke and O'Brien showed clips from television coverage of news events with company representatives and asked librarians to critique the interviews. Also covered were techniques for maintaining control of crisis situations, personality types (using the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator) and how they relate to communication, working with reporters and understanding what they expect from news sources, and protecting messages from inaccuracies.

All attendees participated in mock press conferences, which were either event- or crisis-based. They were videotaped and later reviewed by the group. According to workshop evaluations, many attendees claimed seeing themselves on screen was "painful," but they agreed the exercise was helpful preparation for future interactions with the media.

## Poetry in Missouri public libraries

The Poets House of New York City presented a full-day training session for Missouri librarians on March 20, 2002, on the University of Missouri-Columbia campus. Sponsored by the State Library and the Missouri Center for the Book, the training



## Web Watch

### BookBrowse

[www.bookbrowse.com](http://www.bookbrowse.com)

Check this site for news about and excerpts from current books as well as book reviews, author bios and interviews, reading guides, and publishing information.

### Chilling Effects Clearinghouse

[www.chillingeffects.org](http://www.chillingeffects.org)

Produced by the Electronic Frontier Foundation, this site delves into issues relating to copyright and fair use. It includes accounts of people reacting to cease and desist letters or e-mail from those charging copyright infringement, piracy, and issues with linking to certain websites.

### Medicare: Nursing Home Compare

[www.medicare.gov/nhcompare/home.asp](http://www.medicare.gov/nhcompare/home.asp)

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has developed this website for those who need to find out more about Medicare, nursing homes in general, and health information. The searchable database enables users to narrow their search for a facility by region, county, city, and access information about specific facilities, including reports.

## Tips on working with reporters

Assume that everything is "on the record." Reporters work on that assumption and you should, too.

- Be accessible and helpful.
- Anticipate needs.
- Return phone calls, but not necessarily on top of deadline, unless requested.
- Don't play favorites.
- Don't blame reporters for things they cannot control—whether the story is actually used, length of story, what's cut, headline or on-air promo.
- Don't complain publicly about media treatment.

**Caution:** Consider cameras and microphones to be ON.

**Caution:** Be careful about informal exchanges before and after interviews.

Source: The Vandiver Group





**Salem Public Library staff receive training on the new computers purchased with a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. From left, Gates Foundation instructor Charity Cooper assists librarians Kathy Snyder, Glenda Brown, and Barbara Pratt. (Salem News photo)**

### Gateway's PC donation program

Beginning in April, Gateway will donate up to 4,500 computers to eligible organizations recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as nonprofit entities, with priority given to those whose programs help enhance access to technology for traditionally under-served communities. The computers were supplied to the Salt Lake Organizing Committee for use during the 2002 Olympic Winter Games to track official event results and statistics.

Any organization interested in being considered for a donation must complete an online application. The application will be posted on the Gateway website from April 2 to July 31, 2002. Go to [www.gateway.com/olympics/donations.shtml](http://www.gateway.com/olympics/donations.shtml).

focused on integrating poetry in public library programming, discovering poetry resources, and building poetry collections. Jen Abrams, coordinator of Poetry in the Branches for the Poets House, provided the core training with assistance from Dave Johnson, a New York City poet, and Kevin Prufer, a Missouri poet, creative writing teacher, and Missouri Center for the Book board member.

The range of potential programming is great: open mike sessions where participants read their own poetry, "dead poets" open mike sessions where participants read poems other than their own, memorization circles, reading groups, poetry scavenger hunts through the collection, poetry discussion groups, poetry and music programs, poetry and visual art programs, writing workshops for both children and adults, online poetry sharing, and cooperative programs with local schools. Abrams said open mike sessions are easy to coordinate, inexpensive, and tend to create their own communities. These sessions can also be combined with a featured reading.

If finding a poet is a problem, ask local English teachers, other writers, the St. Louis

Poetry Center or The Writers Place in Kansas City. The Poets & Writers website offers a poets directory by region; go to [www.pw.org](http://www.pw.org).

Building a good collection of contemporary poetry presents a challenge to librarians because 90 percent of poetry published in the U.S. is done by independent presses which publish fewer than 20 titles a year—more likely five titles. Small Press Distribution ([www.spdbooks.org](http://www.spdbooks.org)) distributes small press titles and Consortium handles larger small press titles ([www.cbsd.com](http://www.cbsd.com)). The Poets House database is a helpful source for collection building; this database lists more than 1,000 new poetry books from commercial, university, and independent publishers each year, and these "showcase" lists are archived, currently numbering 7,000 titles, on the Poets House website ([www.poets.house.org](http://www.poets.house.org)).

Prufer discussed poetry journals and magazines, noting that Missouri is particularly rich in nationally known literary magazines such as *New Letters*, *The Missouri Review*, *River Styx*, *Boulevard*, and *Pleiades* (see the Missouri Center for the Book literary database at <http://books.missouri.org> for a complete list of titles). On the national level, *Poetry* is the traditional title, and *Parnassus* is an excellent source as is *Ploughshares*. For new, "edgier" poetry, check *Fence*.

Several Missouri Center for the Book board members made presentations on publicizing poetry programs, forming poetry book discussion groups, and developing a reading series. Johnson and Prufer facilitated a poetry writing exercise and discussed writing workshops and resources for both adults and young people. Abrams helped librarians to formulate site-specific "poetry plans" for their libraries.

The training concluded with readings by Johnson and Prufer, and a recommendation by Abrams to visit "Poetry Daily" at [www.poems.com](http://www.poems.com) — a great tool for becoming oriented to the world of poetry.



## Family Nights at the Library

Missouri libraries currently participating in the Family Nights at the Library program funded through the State Library include Cass County Library, Cedar County Library, Daniel Boone Regional Library, and Jefferson County Library. The Sikeston Public Library has taken advantage of the second phase of the program to assist with locally produced Family Nights at the Library.

These libraries have partnered with educational organizations including a school system, Head Start, and Parents as Teachers, and have enjoyed program topics as diverse as word games, Internet sites for children, and storytelling. Children attending Family Nights at the Library receive a free book, and parents benefit from a program on some aspect of literacy and their children.

## Trustee Academy 2002

The State Library's first Trustee Academy, held February 15-16, 2002, attracted public library trustees from libraries large and small across the state. The academy was made possible by a federal Library Services and Technology Act grant and held at the Holiday Inn SunSpree in Lake Ozark.

Charlaine Ezell of The Extra Edge in Lansing, Michigan, conducted the academy sessions. She brought more than 30 years' experience with state and public libraries, having worked with library boards to develop long-range plans, plan building designs, and resolve conflicts. Ezell, who holds an M.L.S. and a Ph.D in adult education, is skilled at delivering serious subject matter in an engaging and interactive manner.

Areas covered included the roles and responsibilities of trustees, strategic planning, policy making, roles of the library board and library director, advocacy, fiscal responsibilities, conducting and managing meetings, public meetings, potential problems, and library board improvement.

In one of the exercises, trustees "built a library" from strategic planning to con-

structing the building. Ezell used adult education principles and K'Nex (a construction toy consisting of bases, sticks, and connectors) to teach trustees the importance of teamwork and strategic planning. Her presentation style—presenting content and verifying with kinesthetic exercises—was popular with the trustees.

Registration for the academy was capped at 100, but requests for attendance far exceeded that number. Given the interest in the academy and the large number of library trustees in Missouri, State Librarian Sara Parker has approved scheduling another Trustee Academy for the fall of 2002. (Details will be published in an upcoming *Newsline*).



## History grant program available for libraries

The U.S. Department of Education's Teaching American History Grant program is designed "to raise student achievement by improving teachers' knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of American history." This annual grant is awarded "to assist local educational agencies (LEAs)...to design, implement, and demonstrate effective, research-based professional development programs." To be eligible for the Teaching American History Grant, LEAs must work in partnership with one or more entities that have "extensive content expertise"—defined as institutions of higher education, libraries, non-profit history or humanities organizations, and museums. This year, approximately \$100 million will be awarded to fund 200-250 new projects for up to three years.

To learn more about the Teaching American History Grant, see: [www.ed.gov/offices/OESE/TAH/index.html](http://www.ed.gov/offices/OESE/TAH/index.html).

## Hosting a successful author visit

"An author's coming to our school! How to make it a really great day" by Elsa Marston is published by the Indiana Historical Bureau to help public libraries as well as schools plan author events from start to finish. Originally for sale in booklet form, the publication is now available on the Web in PDF format.

Marston advises event planners to think hard about why they want an author to visit their libraries or schools. Having clear objectives will help planners gain support from administrators and potential funders and arrange publicity. The publication covers choosing the right author to invite, lining up support, dealing with the author, "preparing the troops," publicizing the event, welcoming the author, preparing the site, introducing the author, conducting a book signing and sale, and follow-up work.

To read this handy guide, go to your favorite search engine and type in the publication title above.



**newsline** welcomes information for "Missouri Library News" and "Personal Notes" from librarians, library trustees, and others interested in the state's libraries. Send news about library events, projects, awards, and personnel changes to the editor. (See page 2 for contact information.)



### Cassville library dedication

The Cassville Branch of Barry-Lawrence Regional Library moved into a new 9,600-square-foot branch on March 4, 2002. Dedication of the new library will be April 7, with State Librarian Sara Parker as the featured speaker. The new library contains an amphitheater for children's programming, a separate history and genealogy room, and a lower-floor meeting room to accommodate library events and local groups. Each of these rooms will also be dedicated on April 7 to the three major donors: the Viola Welch Estate, which provided the seed money to begin the project; Ken and De McGruder, whose major donation spearheaded the fund-raising project, and Glen and Sharon Garrett of 1st State Bank of Purdy.

Cassville is one of 10 branches in the Barry-Lawrence system, which serves a population of almost 70,000 in the two-county consolidated district.

### Grand opening for Bonne Terre library

On March 9, 2002, Bonne Terre Memorial Library held a grand opening ceremony to celebrate its new 4,200-square-foot addition. Bonne Terre Mayor Sue Wilke presided over the ceremony, which featured presentations by local dignitaries and State Librarian Sara Parker. The event also featured local authors who signed and sold their books.

The addition was built with donations from current and former town residents. It includes a children's area, classrooms for computer training, a meeting area for local groups, work space for library staff, and more bookshelves. It also has an elevator and is fully accessible for people with physical disabilities.

Renovation is almost complete on the original library building, with some work still to be done on the floors, woodwork, and lighting.



### Same address, new look for Kansas City Public's website

After months of work, the Kansas City Public Library has released a new version of the library's website. Getting its first facelift in many years, the new streamlined version is easier to navigate and leads visitors more easily around the site.

Thanks to a customer usability study conducted by the library's Information Technology Services department, the old homepage proved to have too much "link-fat." The IT staff also surveyed some of the library staff in order to compare staff and public comments. The homepage has been trimmed from more than 78 links to just 16, arranged in a more logical order. Six new links at the bottom of the homepage give customers quicker access to the library's most important resources and services on the site.

The "Resources" section contains all the tools necessary for customers to perform research using library resources. Included in these tools are databases, local history indexes, magazines, newspapers, and more.

And more improvements are on the way:

- Real-time chat reference service. This will allow instant, online question and answer sessions with reference librarians.
- Virtual Local History database. Local history databases will be combined into one large database. This will allow users to see pictures and maps, read biographies, and find citations to books about local historical information, all at the same time. Currently, this type of search has to be done using five different databases.
- My Library. A customized, personal homepage for each library customer. The page will mark favorite links and sections of the library website, and will also hold information about the patron's account.



David King of the library's IT department said, "Customers had a difficult time finding information on our website. A big problem was one of training. Customers didn't know how to operate a web browser, and didn't know about some of our programs. They also don't know when using our library catalog is appropriate." Among the changes he suggested were reworking the main page to make links easier to read, renaming some prominent links, using only one link per item on the main page, and eliminating "librarian" words such as policy, reference, and borrower and "techie" words like online.

### Wood Place Library receives gift

The Burger Foundation has donated \$10,000 to the Wood Place Public Library in California. The gift is the third and final \$10,000 donation from the Burger Foundation, the funds being earmarked for technology. Library director Lisa Marshall says that previous donations provided matching funds for the library to develop its distance learning center and enabled the library to purchase public access computers. The current donation will be used for additional public access computers, a network upgrade, and research for automating the library's collection.

### The Edge opens in Springfield

Springfield-Greene County Library's new community technology center, The Edge, will open April 22, 2002, in the lower level of the Midtown Carnegie Branch. Directed by Jazy Mihalik, The Edge will offer 21 public computers and almost 200 classes for all ages in the next four to five months. Among the courses available to the community are Digital Pictures, Computer-Instructed Keyboarding, Fraud or Fact: Medical Information on the Net, Retirement Dollars and Cents, Best of the Net: Movie Sites, Small Biz @ the Library, and Job-Seeking Tips.

Also offered will be University of Missouri workshops taught in Spanish, af-

ter-school tutoring sessions with Springfield Public School teachers, online tutorial classes, and more. These services are made possible through partnerships and grants from the University of Missouri Extension and local schools and community organizations.

### New library for Osage County residents

Missouri River Regional Library has opened a new Osage County Branch in Linn, which replaces a smaller, overcrowded branch in the same town. The old location, half the size of the new 4,700-square-foot facility, was not handicapped accessible and had limited parking. The new branch, designed for wheelchair accessibility; includes adequate parking and plenty of space for the collection. Branch manager Jan Crow says more patrons are visiting the library and circulation has increased.

### Technology expo highlights products and programs

The St. Louis Regional Library Network hosted its first Technology Expo on March 13, 2002 at St. Louis University. Intended

### Smithsonian announces Jazz Appreciation Month

The Smithsonian Institution along with the U.S. Department of Education, the Grammy Foundation, the National Public Radio, the American Library Association, and 12 other partners have designated April as Jazz Appreciation Month. The month offers libraries an opportunity to feature jazz magazines, local jazz musicians, and a chance to join local colleges, universities, and arts centers in featuring music in a community-wide celebration. Visit the Smithsonian website ([www.SmithsonianJazz.org](http://www.SmithsonianJazz.org)) for program ideas.

More Library News



Tracy Byerly (right) demonstrates new software at the St. Louis Tech Expo. She is a staff member of the Missouri Library Network Corporation.

### Wolfner seeks volunteers for recording program

Wolfner Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped sponsors a program to record books not available through the National Library Service offerings to the states. Program volunteers records books by Missouri authors as well as books on Missouri history, politics, culture, people, travel information, humor, and folklore.

If you are interested in helping with this program, contact Deborah Stroup, Volunteer Coordinator, Wolfner Library, 800-392-2614.

for all types of libraries, the expo featured 10 speakers, all Missouri librarians, who discussed e-books, NetLibrary, WebDewey, MOREnet, Wolfner Library's electronic services, Docutek, and references sources such as Bigchalk Library, ProQuest Historical Newspapers, and Marco Polo. The expo also featured exhibits of new products.

According to Jim Pakala, director of Covenant Theological Seminary and one of the organizers, the expo was a huge success, one of the best events the network has had."

### Cass County Library sponsors game month

Game show wannabes had a chance to compete during Game Show Month in March at the Harrisonville Branch of Cass County Library. The branch library offered four fun-packed versions of Readers' Trivia Challenge and a Pot O'Gold Finale during a two-week period.

Area residents could join a five-member team or just watch from the audience. Impromptu teams were formed among those not part of a formal team such as the Rotary and Kiwanis teams. Questions were devel-

oped by library staff using several literary trivia books. Guest emcees included the managing editor of the county newspaper, the school superintendent, executive director of the local Chamber of Commerce, and two Harrisonville businesspeople. Prizes included journals, pens, notecards, and other reading-related items.

Branch librarian Teresa Foss said competition between Rotary and Kiwanis members was particularly heated and hard-fought. The Rotary won and the Kiwanis presented the winning team with a Big Whiners Award. She emphasized that all game play was team-supported so no one felt "out there" alone.

Foss plans to hold the games next year with a few minor changes. For details on the type of games played and the project's organization, contact Foss at 816-884-3483.

### "United We Read" a great success in Cape Girardeau

Julia Jorgensen, a librarian at Central High School in Cape Girardeau, organized a one-book, one-city reading event that featured a book discussion each day during February. Cape Girardeau Public Library was an integral partner in the citywide book club. The organizers chose John Grisham's *A Painted House* for its cotton farming tie-in (the book's northern Arkansas landscape is similar to Cape Girardeau's), its baseball and food themes, close family relationships, and its appeal to all ages.

Both Jorgensen and Betty Martin, Cape Girardeau Public Library director, serve on the education subcommittee of Vision 20/20, a group working on long-term goals for the City of Cape Girardeau.

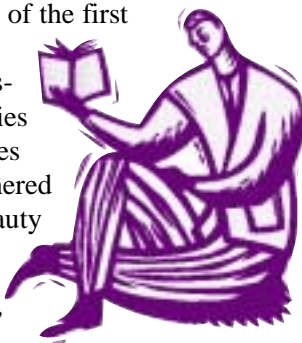
Jorgensen said support for the reading project was "overwhelming"—from individuals who volunteered to lead discussions, to schools, community groups, television stations, and the local newspaper, which ran front-page articles, enthusiastic editorials, a full-page calendar, and daily reminders of events. Buttons, ribbons, T-shirts, and bookmarks publicized the project, and a website provided further information.



Fairview families celebrate the arrival of 67 books from the Libri Foundation to the Fairview Community Library, a branch of Springfield-Greene County Library. Local residents raised \$350 in matching funds, which Libri doubled and added a bonus book for a value of \$1,072. They raised funds through the Library Angels and participation in a local quilt and craft show. Grants from the Libri Foundation are available to rural libraries. Visit the foundation's website at [www.librifoundation.org](http://www.librifoundation.org).



The organizers obtained permission to reprint 500 copies of the first chapter of the book, and they distributed these copies in January to places where people gathered such as stores, beauty shops, and doctors' offices. That started the "buzz," and the project just took off. "People got caught up in it," Jorgensen said.



The library received 185 copies of the book weeded from Mid-Continent Public Library's collections, kept 50 for the project, and distributed the rest to schools and throughout the community. The book also was available in paperback. The library couldn't keep the book on the shelf, and the bookstores sold out their paperback copies.

Book discussions were held in schools, libraries, bookstores, a senior citizens center, the high school pool, an exercise studio, and on the radio. Discussion leaders included the mayor's wife, two high school principals, a local television personality, students, clergy, college professors, youth leaders, and librarians. Jorgensen said a historian from Arkansas led a particularly interesting discussion on cotton farming and how it has changed over the years.

Community members also volunteered to read chapters of the book on the public access television channel. Among the TV readers are Senate President Pro Tem Peter Kinder, state Representative Jason Crowell, syndicated columnist David Limbaugh, a circuit judge, a school superintendent, the Chamber of Commerce president, the newspaper editor, and students. The channel is airing two chapters each week until May.

Jorgensen conducted a survey at the project's end and received 835 completed surveys, all positive and wanting to do it again. She said people are still coming up to her and saying, "I'm reading that book."

For more information on the project, contact Jorgensen at 573-334-0644, or Martin at 573-334-5279.

## Personal Notes

### New Directors

**Pam Hunter** has been appointed director for the Marshall Public Library. She replaces **Karl Brockfeld**.

Hunter has returned to Missouri from Virginia where she served as operations manager and interim director at the Samuels Public Library in Front Royal. Before moving to Virginia, she was director of the Brookfield Public Library in northern Missouri from 1993-98. Her administration in Brookfield culminated in the building of a new library for the town. She has also worked in Tennessee libraries.

She holds a B.A. in English from Arkansas State University and is working on an M.L.S. at Central Missouri State University.

**Beth Murray** is the new director of the Farmington Public Library. She succeeds **Lynn Crites**, who retired recently after 15 years of service. During Crites' administration, the library space was doubled and new services were added including a genealogy room, an automated catalog, and public Internet access.

Murray holds a master's degree in English and an undergraduate degree in speech communication from Southeast Missouri State University. She has taught in high school and currently teaches writing part-time at Mineral Area College. She hopes to organize a Friends of the Library group and other book-related activities for the community.

### Appointments

**Deb Sommer** has accepted the position of outreach coordinator for the National Network of Libraries of Medicine—Mid-continental Region, which is based at the J.Otto Lottes Health Sciences Library at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Sommer will work within Missouri to provide basic network and outreach services rendered by the national network. She will manage network membership, coordinate document delivery, provide training to increase access to health information, de-

### Promoting Missouri tourism

Tourism is one of Missouri's largest industries, generating almost \$13 billion annually. More than 200,000 Missourians make their living in tourism-related jobs, which amounts to one of every 14 jobs in the state.

With the exception of the Branson area, all parts of Missouri that depend on tourism have experienced a significant downturn in revenues since the September 11 tragedy. In an effort to reverse this decline, the Missouri Division of Tourism, in conjunction with the Department of Conservation and the Department of Natural Resources, has launched a "Rediscover Your Missouri" campaign. It is hoped the program will not only bolster Missouri's tourism economy in the short run, but also over the long run because Missourians and citizens in neighboring states will become familiar with the many things Missouri offers to travelers.

Check out the Missouri Division of Tourism website at [www.VisitMO.com](http://www.VisitMO.com) and request a free copy of the *Official Missouri Vacation Planner* by calling 800-519-4800.

## New name for Laubach/LVA

ProLiteracy Worldwide will be the name for the new organization joining Laubach Literacy International (LLI) and the Literacy Volunteers of America (LVA). The domestic operations will be ProLiteracy America, and the international operations will be ProLiteracy International. Use of the new name will begin externally after a public launch sometime this fall.

The first joint national conference of LLI and LVA will be held in San Diego from May 20 through June 1, 2002. It will offer some 80 workshops on literacy program management and training, recruiting volunteers, English-as-a-Second-Language instruction, learning disabilities, women's literacy, workplace development, and correctional system literacy programs.

velop and support library improvement projects, encourage connectivity to National Library of Medicine's products and services, and promote NLM's grant program.

She received an M.L.S. from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville and a B.S. in business from Murray State University (KY). She has an extensive record of service at the University of Georgia and the University of North Carolina at Wilmington.

**Suzanne Stoffel** has joined the Kansas City Public Library staff as the new planned giving coordinator. In addition to establishing and maintaining a planned giving program, she provides specialized support of other development activities with emphasis on donor relations, major gifts, and capital campaign efforts. Before joining the library, she was development coordinator for the Girl Scouts of Mid-Continent Council, Inc.

Two librarians at Ellis Library, University of Missouri, are working with the American Library Association on important issues facing the profession.

**June DeWeese** has been invited by John W. Berry, ALA president, to serve on a transition team to guide the development of an operating plan for a 501(c)6 professional organization "to promote the mutual professional interests of librarians and other library workers." The new organization will be allied with ALA. DeWeese recently completed a term on the Special Presidential Task Force on the Status of Librarians. The transition team will address the issues recommended by the task force.

**Geoff Swindells** has been appointed co-chair of the Federal Documents Task Force on Permanent Public Access to Government Information. The task force was formed by ALA's Government Documents Round Table to document restrictions on access to government after September 11 and to advocate policy solutions that will protect the rights of citizens to public information.

**Polly Bower** has been named manager of the Seneca Branch Library, Neosho-Newton County Library. She has worked in various capacities for the library system for 13 years.

Henry County Library has announced the appointment of **Marsha Evans** to the position of seniors specialist. Evans will develop programs that focus on the needs and interests of individuals 55 and over. She is currently working on programs addressing senior safety and health issues.

## Award

**Sharon Early** will receive the 2002 Special Service Award, to be presented by the Missouri Association of School Librarians at its spring conference in April. The award is presented to an individual who has served library media organizations at the national, state, and local levels, demonstrated leadership through improved library services, and made significant contributions to the promotion of school libraries outside the immediate school library arena.

Early serves as coordinator of media services for the Lee's Summit School District, a position she has held since 1987. She coordinates 20 professional staff, 29 library support staff, and four secretaries. She has been employed with the Lee's Summit district as a teacher and media specialist since 1964.

Long active in MASL, Early has held the offices of president and treasurer and chaired committees and conferences. On the national level, she has served on several committees within the American Association of School Librarians. She was a founding member of the Greater Kansas City Association of School Librarians.

Early is a member of the Secretary of State's Council on Library Development and teaches graduate classes in library media at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

## Death

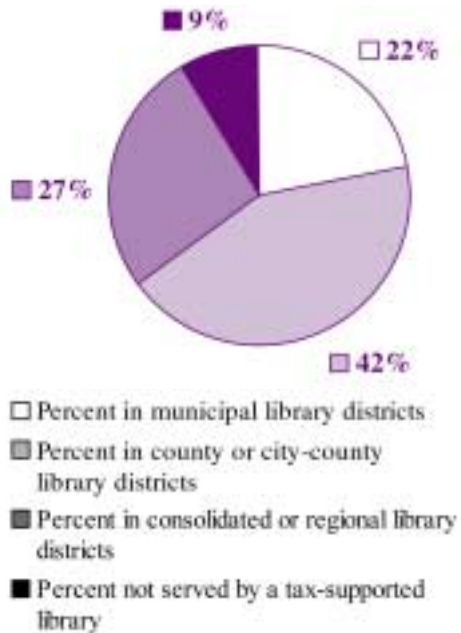
**Betty Kelley**, children's librarian at the Monett Branch of Barry-Lawrence Regional Library, died after suffering a heart attack on March 4, 2002. A Monett library staff member for 16 years, Kelley led preschool story hour, summer reading club, home school activities, and many other special events. She wrote a weekly library column promoting library services for the *Monett Times*.

## State Library issues seniors manual

*Serving Seniors: A Resource Manual for Missouri Libraries* has been distributed to public libraries, state agencies involved in services to seniors, and state libraries. Produced by the State Library as part of its senior services initiative, this comprehensive 230-page manual resulted from suggestions made by the seniors services task force and by librarians and local social service providers across the state. The manual covers the planning process, agency collaboration, programming for older adults, marketing, technology and older adults, agencies serving older adults, and pages of useful resources from large-print suppliers and electronic resources to specialty publishers. Librarians will find the almost 100-page programming section especially helpful with its ready-made program instructions.

To request a copy of the manual, contact Nancee Dahms-Stinson at the State Library, 800-325-0131, ext. 6; e-mail dahmsn@sosmail.state.mo.us.

## Missouri residents by type of library service



Source: Missouri Census Data Center

## Show Me Readers Award, 2002-2003 nominees

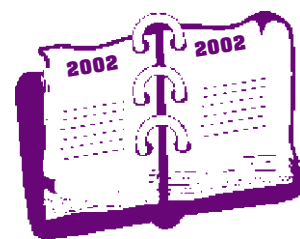
The Missouri Association of School Librarians sponsors the annual Show Me Readers Award. This children's choice award promotes literature, literacy, and reading in Missouri elementary schools for grades one through three and recognition of authors and illustrators of books that are favorites of Missouri children in these grades. Following are the 2002-2003 nominees:

- Adler, David A.**—*America's Champion Swimmer*  
**Arnold, Marsha Diane**—*The Bravest of Us All*  
**Brumbeau, Jeff**—*The Quiltmaker's Gift*  
**Cronin, Doreen**—*Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type*  
**Henkes, Kevin**—*Wemberly Worried*  
**McKissack, Patricia**—*The Honest-to-Goodness Truth*  
**Medearis, Angela Shelf**—*Seven Spools of Thread*  
**Meggs, Libby Phillips**—*Go Home! The True Story of James the Cat*  
**Munson, Derek**—*Enemy Pie*  
**St. George, Judith**—*So You Want to Be President?*

## Building Block Awards, 2002 nominees

- Bateman, Teresa**—*Farm Flu*  
**Christelow, Eileen**—*Five Little Monkeys Wash the Car*  
**Gorbachev, Valeri**—*Chicken Chickens*  
**Harper, Dan**—*Sit, Truman!*  
**Howard, Arthur**—*Hoodwinked*  
**Lass, Bonnie & Sturges, Philemon**—*Who Took the Cookies From the Cookie Jar?*  
**Markes, Julie**—*Good Thing You're Not an Octopus*  
**McFarland, Lyn Rossiter**—*Widgit*  
**Walton, Rick**—*The Bear Came Over to My House*  
**Wells, Rosemary**—*Max Cleans Up*

## Upcoming Events



**May**  
 Get Caught Reading Month  
 National Book Month

**May 1-4**  
 St. Louis Storytelling Festival  
 St. Louis

**May 3-5**  
 Book Expo America  
 New York

**May 7**  
 National Library Legislative Day

**May 7-23**  
 Medical Library Association  
 Annual Conference  
 Dallas

**May 30**  
 Secretary's Council on  
 Library Development  
 Meeting  
 Jefferson City

**June 6**  
 MOBIUS Annual Conference  
 Jefferson City

**June 6-7**  
 Missouri Public Library  
 Directors Meeting  
 Lebanon

**June 8-13**  
 Special Libraries Association  
 Annual Conference  
 Los Angeles

**June 13-19**  
 American Library  
 Association Annual  
 Conference  
 Atlanta



“To become fully functional in today's world, students must become fully skilled in the new literacies of information and communication technology (ICT) such as word processors, web editors, presentation software, and e-mail. Therefore, educators have a responsibility to effectively integrate these technologies into the literacy curriculum in order to prepare students for the literacy future they deserve.”

Donna Ogle, President,  
International Reading  
Association

## Spring 2002 Missouri library grant opportunities

Secretary of State Matt Blunt and State Librarian Sara Parker have announced a new series of grant opportunities available to Missouri libraries through the federal Library Services and Technology Act. These are based on the priorities outlined in *Charting Missouri's Library Future into the Next Century*.

- **Adaptive Equipment Grants (open to public libraries only):** To help public libraries offer people with disabilities easier access to information services. Application deadlines: May 15, 2002 (postmarked); May 16, 2002 (hand delivered)
- **After-School Connections:** To provide positive and enriching after-school experiences for youth in public libraries which will develop their reading skills, introduce library services and stimulate their use, and provide opportunities for positive interactions with their peers and adults. Deadlines: June 4, 2002 (postmarked); June 5, 2002 (hand delivered)
- **Bring in an Expert:** For securing the services of qualified consultants and experts for all types of libraries. Deadline: Applications may be submitted at any

time up to July 1, 2002. Projects must be completed by September 25, 2002.

- **English as a Second Language Conversation Practice Groups:** Native English-speaking volunteers meet regularly with individuals or small groups of non-native English speakers who are learning English and need additional practice. Deadlines: May 15, 2002 (postmarked); May 17, 2002 (hand delivered)
- **Planning and Standards (open to public libraries only):** To assist public library trustees and directors in the development of policies and service plans. Deadline: Applications may be submitted at any time up to July 1, 2002. Projects must be completed by September 30, 2002.
- **Show Me Steps to Career Development:** For assistance to all library staff and public library trustees in developing library-related skills. Deadline: Six weeks prior to the requested event.

For more information about any of these programs, visit the State Library's website at [www.sos.mo.gov](http://www.sos.mo.gov).

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